

# Go Ye Into All the World and Preach the Gospel to Every Creature

## MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Altona M. S.,

Dear Highway Friends:

It seems only a short time ago that Kenneth was counting the months before Christmas, on his fingers, and now it has come and gone, and we are into the New Year. May God give us a good year in our work, we pray! God has blessed the work greatly during the past, and as we keep in His will I believe He will continue to do so, both here and in the homeland.

Unfortunately I contracted the 'flu just before Christmas and was in bed during the Quarterly Meetings, but everyone helped out, and I believe the work went along nicely. Everyone reported good services and a large crowd. A cow and a goat were killed for the natives' Christmas feast, held the 27th, and many large pots of ground corn were also cooked. The workers said that everyone present received food. An open air service was held first and after that the Christmas tree was much enjoyed. Then came the feast of meat and corn. We do pray that the seed sown that day was a blessing to many.

We had a great deal of excitement—one day just before Christmas I heard the call of "snake," and for umfundisi to bring his gun. We all ran out behind the house where a big snake was hidden between the bricks and the house. Eugene shot once but wasn't sure if it was dead. It was a spitting cobra, so the boys got a long iron rod and shoved in one side and the snake come out the other. so Eugene shot it again. It had been hit the first time, but wasn't dead. It was the largest snake we had killed on the Station for a long time, and we were grateful to the dear Lord for His protection over us. About noon we noticed the dog wasn't acting well and on investigation we found that the snake had spit in one eye. He suffered greatly for a while but is alright now. It certainly gave me an idea of how painful such a thing can be and I thanked God that it hadn't happened to one of the children.

That night about sundown, we had a down-pour of rain, a regular cloud burst. The water jumped the ditches and a river just poured through the Mission, carrying away and killing about twenty of my chickens, a setting of duck eggs, kittens, etc., besides destroying young plants in the garden. Several times we have had similar experiences since coming here, but this was the worst we have ever had.

Lightning has been very severe near us this year. The young woman who was struck with lightning, is improving, but she is deaf, can-

not hear a sound. Last week lightning also hit a near-by kraal killing two young men, injuring three others and burning a hut. The family had recently moved near us. Last year a son was also killed by lightning. We do feel very sorry for the family and pray that God will comfort them in their great sorrow.

My S. S. is small during the holidays but there are always the faithful ones and we thank God for them and pray that they will always obey His voice.

Schools will open the 21st. Our boys all passed and will be starting new grades. I shall also begin to teach Kenneth as he was 6 years old in November. This year I will have only three native children to stay with us and go to school.

We want to thank everyone who sent cards, etc., to make our Christmas happy. May God bless you one and all, we pray.

Continue to remember the work here, in your prayers. God is still on the throne, even though the enemy is busy, and we praise God for the help that many received during the Quarterly Meetings and pray that many others will come to Jesus during the year. We remember the work in the homeland and pray that God will bless.

Yours, for souls in Africa,

G. M. KIERSTEAD

Altona M. S.

Dear Children who attended Beulah and Riverside Children's Meetings, 1946:

We have recently received your gifts that were sent to us as a Christmas gift, and we want to thank you so very much for it. We intend to use it for our schooling. Harold is in High School in Piet Retief so it costs a lot more for him. Glendon and Reginald will stay in Comondale this year and mother will start teaching Kenneth at home.

So we thank you very much for all the help and pray that God will bless you, in the New Year.

We are going to have three school children staying here at the Mission Station this year. Isaac Mtetwa from Hartland and Philemon Lukeli have both been here two years, going to school, and they will be coming back. The two girls who were here last year passed Grade VI so they won't be here this year, but Rev. Paul Nkosi's little girl Maina is coming to study Grade V., I think. Maina has been baptized but Isaac and Philemon are still seekers. Pray for them that they will really get the knowledge of sins forgiven.

Two of the Altonachurch girls were baptized during the Christmas Quarterly Meetings but it seems hard to get the boys to be

good Christians. Charley Lukeli, who stayed with us four and a half years and just finished Grade VI. in December, was a very good boy and a baptized member of our church, but he has gone home now to get ready to go to another school to take Grade VII. Pray for him that God will keep him from all the evils and help him to shine for Jesus, wherever he is.

We enjoy our young people's services, and all but Kenneth take turns at leading the services. We try to get home for those services but sometimes we are not able to.

We are interested in the Holiness Bible Institute and wish we could attend it. We pray that God will bless all the young people attending and make them a blessing to our work.

We all want to thank everyone who sent us cards and gifts for Christmas. They made our Christmas much nicer as we haven't many friends to remember us in this land.

We want to thank you again for the gifts of money and pray that you will all enjoy good Camp Meetings again this year.

Yours Friends in Africa,

THE KIERSTEAD BOYS

Altona M. S.,

January 19th, 1947.

Dear Highway Friends:

South Africa sends you her best wishes for a happy and prosperous 1947—"Jesus Christ, is the same yesterday, today, and forever."

The Christmas season found the Africa Reformed Baptists in regular Quarterly Session at Altona from the 25th to the 29th of December. Wednesday and Thursday were given over to business for the most part. Friday was the day of the Christmas Feast and exchange of presents and, a prolonged prayer and praise service for the greater part of the night. Saturday and Sunday were days of preaching and prayer and evangelistic effort.

Eight candidates went down into the baptismal waters on Sunday morning and were baptized by Rev. Johanisi Nkosi. In the afternoon all of these were extended the right hand of fellowship. Two others were restored and allowed to partake of Communion after having been disciplined for breaches of Christian principles.

The conference approved of the following new appointments: Absolom Dhlamini as a preacher, Aron Mbata and Timoti Dhlamini as licentiates, and Belina Dhlamini as a prayer helper. Daniel Sukazi was approved of for ordination at the next Quarterly Session in April.

Two babies were presented to the church by their parents and were prayed for and two